

**Office of Institutional Assessment
Program Review
Self-Study Guidance Document**

The self-study consists of a brief, yet comprehensive, response to each standard's criteria.

Please include an **executive summary** at the beginning of the document (maximum length – 1 page).

The narrative section, including explanations for each bolded standard, usually ends up totaling ~15 pages.

All relevant supporting/supplemental materials should appear as **appendices** at the end of the document.

Format and Structure of Report

For each **bolded standard below**, please address the related criteria in the self-study report and include the designated supporting documentation.

Standard 1 – Program/Alignment:

- a. Alignment of the program's purpose with the University's mission and that of its School and/or College.
- b. Alignment of curriculum to meet University needs (i.e., Liberal Studies)

Supporting Documentation:

- [WCU Strategic Plan](#) (only the language relevant to your program's alignment)

Standard 2 – Program/Curriculum Quality:

- a. Identify strengths and potential areas of improvement within the curriculum and the program.
- b. Logic, sequence, and coherence of the curriculum.
- c. Amount of time needed to complete the curriculum.
- d. Multi- or interdisciplinary strengths of the programs.
- e. Internal process(es) used by the program to modify the curriculum.
- f. Curriculum maps and assessment of learning plans and reports.
- g. Distance programs only: Analysis of online education derived from Quality Matters (or other quality framework for virtual learning.)
- h. Graduate programs only: Demonstrate graduate level work and academic rigor (SACSCOC 9.6)

Supporting Documentation:

- [WCU Catalog](#) copy of program curriculum
- Course syllabi examples

- Frequency of course offerings and mean class size for previous five years
- Time to degree data for graduates over the past five years
- Program's current assessment plan and curriculum map
- Programs' continuous improvement reports (CIRs) for the last three years
- Curriculum and/or advising check sheets

Standard 3 – Program/Students:

- a. Total student enrollment in program and enrollment patterns relative to institutional enrollment.
- b. Diversity of student population
- c. Structure of student advising in the program
- d. Student opportunities to engage in program-related co- and extra-curricular activities.
- e. Processes to recruit and retain students
- f. Student performance on licensure or professional certification exams relative to regional and national standards (if applicable)

Supporting Documentation:

- Demographic data for students in program
- Number of students graduating each year for each degree type (including minors)
- Course enrollments over the past three years
- Examples of employment positions or graduate institutions/degrees held by recent graduates

Standard 4 – Program/Faculty Resources:

- a. Faculty educational backgrounds adequately span the major concentrations in the program
- b. Representative nature of faculty in terms of demographics, tenure, and diversity
- c. Faculty demonstrate continuing growth as professional practitioners, teachers, and scholars
- d. Evidence of positive, productive work environment for all faculty in the program (adjuncts, instructors, tenure-track, and post-tenure).
- e. Rational and coherent performance standards for faculty review, tenure, and promotion.

Supporting Documentation:

- Demographic data for faculty in the program
- Current curriculum vitae for full-time faculty
- Course load and enrollment, by instructor name, for previous three years
- Department Collegial Review Document (DCRD), if applicable

Standard 5 – Program/Administrative Structure and Financial Resources

- a. Processes in place to ensure efficient and effective decision-making
- b. Support and training opportunities provided for faculty serving as department heads, program directors, or in other leadership positions.
- c. Faculty involvement in ongoing program activities such as assessment, curriculum development and review, and faculty tenure, reappointment, and promotion.

- d. Process for evaluating program administrators
- e. Adequacy of budget to support the mission and goals of the program
- f. Effective and appropriate use of program staff, as well as any program staffing needs
- g. Adequacy of facilities and laboratories, instructional technology, and any other resources to support the mission and goals of the program.

Supporting Documentation:

- Organizational chart of program, if applicable
- Minutes of departmental meetings (available to review team upon request)
- Equipment, travel, technology, and operating budgets for previous three years
- List of major facilities and equipment
- List of major hardware and software used by the program
- List of support personnel, including non-teaching graduate assistants.